THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) A proposal to set up a Central Advisory Committee for Newspaper Industry is under consideration of the Government. However, for reviewing the progress of implementation of Central Government orders on Palekar Tribunal recommendations and problems germane thereto, a Tripartite Committee under the Chairmanship of Labour Minister already exists since December, 1983.

Setting up of a Committee streamline the functioning of Food Corporation of India

195. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Wlil the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have appointed a Committee to streamline the functioning of Food Corporatoin of India; and

(b) if so, by when it is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. an internal committee of officers is looking into the working of Food Corporation of India with a view to bringing economy and efficiency. and its report is awaited shortly.

R.B.I. study into economic backwardness of states

196. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India is contemplating to diagnose the causes of Bihar's economic backwardness;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) by when the proposed study will be initiated;

(d) whether the Reserve Bank propose to conduct such study in other States also;

(e) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(f) if not ,what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) Following the discussions at the Regional Consultative Committee meeting for Eastern Region in 1984—the Reserve Bank of India got a sample study conducted in 9 Districts of Bihar to find out the reasons for low credit deposit ratio in the State, and suggest remedial measures. The study revealed that the main reasons for low credit: deposit ratio in Bihar are lack of infractural facilities, inadequate and irregular supply of power, non-availability of require assets--lack of assured irrigation etc. together-with factors like inadequacy of staff, lack of proper guidance from controlling offices, and lack of publictiy for various credit linked schemes. Additionally, the study showed that in the context of large sections of the population belonging to economically back-ward communities--there was a need for prospective borrowers to be properly identified to take up viable schemes. The credit: deposit ratio of banks in Bihar and general economic backwardness was subsequently discussed in the State Level Bankers' Committee meeting held on 1-2-1986. A committee consisting of the Government Secretaries and Bankers has been constituted to monitor progress of improvement in credit: deposit ratio.

(d) to (f) According to information available from Reserve Bank of India similar steps were taken to study low credit deposit ratio in West Bengal after that State Government drew attention to this effect. Moreover, a high level Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.R. Sen was set up by the Reserve Bank of India and NABARD in consultation with Union Ministry of Agriculture to study the problems and prospects of Agricultural productivity in the Eastern states in West